*For gardening*

# Get in gear now

By Shirley W. Walton
Extension Agent

**Get in Gear for Gardening**

Cultivate good use and care habits for supplies and your gardening will be much easier. The selection and care of needed tools and equipment for gardening is important to the pleasure of growing plants, flowers, vegetables, lawns and shrubs. Spring is the time to check materials on hand, plan for new purchases and organize convenient storage.

Now is also the time to watch for some good sales that will be featured at your gardening centers as the garden center wishes to move certain items. You can replenish your supply of materials and implements needed for gardening.

Equipment properly cleaned and repaired for winter storage (last fall) should almost be ready to go. If neglected, I urge you to get busy now with the wash, scrub and renew program. After washing and drying your tools, add a few drops of oil to those with movable parts, such as pruning shears, edge trimmers and spreaders. Have lawn mower blades sharpened. Remove old soil from flower pots and planters. Wash and rinse thoroughly before adding new soil and plantings. Launder gardening gloves and apron type caddies if were put away dirty.

Take an inventory of your supplies. It pays to invest in quality gardening tools that are sturdy and durable. With good care, these tools will provide years of service. Plan for clean, convenient storage. A paneled peg board can be secured to a wall on a garage or tool shed. A variety of hooks are available to hold all kinds of equipment. There are also shelf and tool organizers on the market. Use a hose rack to keep a garden hose neatly coiled when not in use. Sun, hot water and water in the hose can cause it to deteriorate rapidly. Pails, watering cans and totes for transporting small supplies from place to place while gardening are also very useful. They should be lightweight, easy to wash clean and easy to store.

Care is important to preserve equipment and sometimes to insure our safety. Remove any soils after each use. Wash, rinse and dry equipment when necessary. Never leave tools outside to rust and deteriorate in the sun and weather when not in use. Weather can damage tools causing rust, corrosion and weakening of some materials.

For safety sake, use caution and follow manufacturer's directions when using insecticides, fungicides and other garden chemicals. Always thoroughly wash equipment immediately after use, preferably outdoors. Never wash this type of equipment near food or food service areas. When using insecticides or other controls, wear protective clothing, including gloves. Remove clothing and launder separately. This rule applies also when dealing with poisonous plant materials such as the removal of poison ivy, sumac and oak.

Cultivate good care habits. They pay off in the long run by saving time and money, plus adding to gardening pleasure and good results.

Homemakers, if you have a homemaking question or problem, you may call us at 352-8244 or write us at P. O. Box 488, Appomattox, Va. 24522. It is always a pleasure to hear from you and to help you.

Have a good week!

**RECIPE OF THE WEEK**
**Frances' Strawberry Dessert**

1 16 oz. package frozen strawberries
2 egg whites
1 Tablespoon lemon juice
¼ cup sugar
1 cup whipped topping
whole strawberries (or cherries)

Place first four ingredients in large mixer bowl and beat about 12 minutes, or until stiff enough to hold peaks. Add whipped topping and continue beating until well mixed. Fill individual serving dishes and freeze. Top with whipped topping and put strawberry or cherry on top just before serving. Makes 8 servings with about 110 calories each.

Many thanks to Frances Wilson for sharing this "yummy" low-calorie dessert with us. It is delicious.

KIM TORRERNCE

# Kim Torrence honored

Kimetha Torrence, a 5th grader at Marumsco Hills Elementary School in Woodbridge, Virginia won first place for her project, "The Balance Of Nature" in the zoology/health section of the junior division of the sixth annual Prince William-Manasses Region a l Science Fair held on April 17 at Brentsville District High School. Over 300 students from Prince William County and the City of Manasses participated in the science fair.

On May 1, Kimetha won second place in the Junior Divison of the Woodbridge Music-Club Scholarship Contest. Kim played two selections on the piano for her performance. Each participant was selected by his or her music instructor to compete and Kim was the youngest contestant. The prize for second place was a check for $20.00.

Kim is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Torrence of Lake Ridge, Virginia and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Elliott Torrence and Mr. and Mrs. C. Douglas Doss all of Appomattox.

**OFFICERS FOR 1982-1984 were installed at Monday evening's meeting of the Appomattox Woman's Club. Shown are [from left] Patty Booker, installing officer; Jenny Fratrick, president; Roma Moore, first vice president; Helen Anderson, second vice president; Dot Davidson, recording secretary; Norma Vance, corresponding secretary; Dorothy Fedison, treasurer; and Frances Harvey, historian. [Photo by Bill Sherrod]**

# DECA excels

The Appomattox DECA Chapter was well represented at the 39th Annual DECA State Leadership Conference April 23-25, 1982.

The conference was held at Holiday Inn, Scope, Norfolk, Virginia. Students attending from Appomattox were: Mike Shupe-district representative in automotive petroleum; Darlene Smith-district representative in food service/-master employer; Teresa Bass-district representative in student of the year and central area vice president candidate; Kim Shupe-district representative in sales demonstration; Roselyn Megginson-district representative in job interview; Rebecca Doss-voting delegate; Wayne Phelps-voting delegate.

Appomattox once again came home winners. Mike Shupe won the automotive/petroleum competition in state competition. He will represent Virginia in national competition in Chicago in June.

In addition, Teresa Bass was elected central area vice president of Virginia DECA. Teresa will represent all the local school chapters from Roanoke to Richmond and will provide various leadership duties in these areas.

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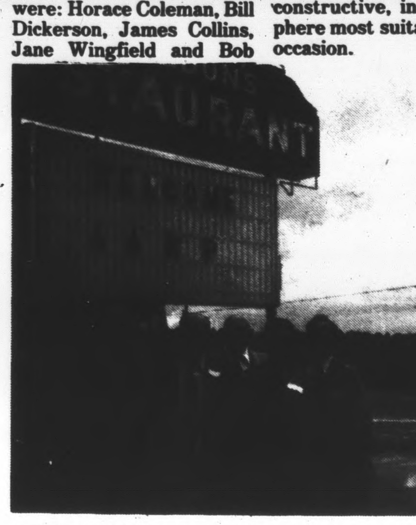
# Locals host event

A group of five from the Pamplin Chapter of American Association of Retired Persons were the hosts at a workshop held in Keysville Tuesday, April 27. The five who attended were: Horace Coleman, Bill Dickerson, James Collins, Jane Wingfield and Bob Miner.

A most delightful luncheon was served and enjoyed by all six of the chapter members present.

The meeting was extremely interesting and constructive, in an atmosphere most suitable for the occasion.



AARP HOSTS (from left) Horace Coleman, Bill Dickerson, James Collins, Jane Wingfield, and Bob Miner.

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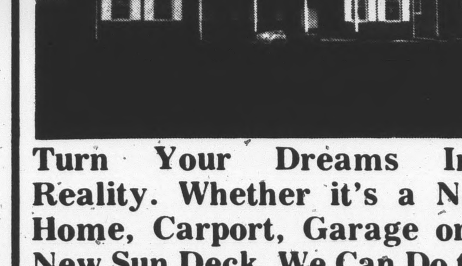

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